(ii) Interviewing the applicants by the Licensing Authority and the Deputy Commissioner of Police concerned to assess the genuineness of the need for having a weapon; and

(iii) In cases where the applicant is found to be lacking in knowledge for handling the weapon for which the license is required, he/she is asked to produce a certificate from an authorized trainer/ renowned shooter after under necessary training for handling weapons.

Misuse of foreign funding

*316. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many political parties or social organizations of Kerala have been allowed to receive foreign funding;

(b) whether Government observe that the money received through the foreign assistance was used for anti-national activities;

(c) whether any such instances have been brought into the notice of Government from Kerala and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to impose a restraint or restriction on foreign funding in view of its possible misuses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Under the provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976, political parties are prohibited from accepting any foreign contribution. As on 15th Dec. 2004, 2514 organizations had been registered and 11 organizations were granted prior permission in the State of Kerala to receive foreign contribution under aforesaid Act.

(b) and (c) No such instances have so far come to the Notice of the Government.

(d) Act empowers the Central Government to take action against recipient organizations which are found contravening the provisions of the Act, including acceptance of foreign contribution without registration or prior permission, or not properly utilizing it for the stated purposes and objectives. The action includes placing the organization in the prior permission category, prohibiting it from receiving any foreign contribution, freezing its bank account and prosecuting it in a court of law.